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Patent  
Case No.: 56731US002

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: KUTA, LEROY A.

Application No.: 09/883144

Group Art Unit: 1734

Filed: June 15, 2001

Examiner: Mark A. Osele

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY APPLYING A FLYING  
SPlicing TAPE TO A ROLL OF SHEET MATERIALAMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

To Fax No.: 703-872-9306

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent  
and Trademark Office on:

JUN 11 2004

Date

Signed by: Kathleen M. Murray

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the outstanding Office Action, mailed April 13, 2004, in the above-identified application.

This Amendment is believed to be timely submitted. It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.